

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W

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R 260726Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9961

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 1163

STATE FOR CU/EE, USIA FOR IEU, ICS/CA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, PL

SUBJECT: AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER (ASC)

REF: STATE 42790

1. WE WILL CONSULT WITH PROFESSOR FARNHAM TOMORROW CONCERNING DEAN WILSON'S LETTER TO RECTOR RYBICKI ON THE ASC, AND WE EXPECT TO MEET WITH WARSAW UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS NEXT WEEK. WE ARE VERY PLEASED WITH THE PROPOSALS MADE BY INDIANA UNIVERSITY AND EXPECT THAT THEY, TOGETHER WITH SIMILAR PROPOSAL FOR A POLISH LECTURER ON THE ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CAMPUS NEXT YEAR, WILL BE VIEWED BY THE POLISH SIDE AS ADEQUATE "RECIPROCITY" FOR THE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASC AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY.

2. WE WILL CONSULT WITH THE POLISH SIDE CONCERNING THE FULL PAYMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR POLISH PARTICIPANTS LECTURING AND STUDYING IN THE U.S. MENTIONED IN PARA 4 OF THE REFTEL.

3. THERE IS CURRENTLY NO DUPLICATION OF EFFORT BETWEEN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FULBRIGHT AMERICAN LITERATURE PROFESSOR ASSIGNED TO THE INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH PHILOLOGY AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY AND THE AMERICAN LITERATURE SPECIALIST ASSIGNED TO THE ASC AT THAT INSTITUTION, WE HOPE THAT

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THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASC WILL EVOLVE WITHIN THE NEXT

FEW YEARS TO SUPPLANT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FULBRIGHT AMERICAN LITERATURE PROFESSOR ASSIGNED IN THE INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH PHILOLOGY. WE FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY UNWISE, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE CENTER'S OPERATIONS, TO ELIMINATE THIS FULBRIGHT AMERICAN LITERATURE SPECIALIST. WE DO NOT WANT TO CREAT THE IMPRESSION ON THE POLISH SIDE, BOTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MINEDUC) AND AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY, THAT THEY ARE TRADING FULBRIGHT POSITIONS FOR THE ASC. THE MINEDUC AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAVE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED TO US THE HIGH PRIORITY THEY ATTACHE TO THE CONTINUED ASSIGNMENT OF FULBRIGHT LECTUREERS IN THIS FIELD TO POLISH INSTITUTIONS AND SPECIFICALLY TO WARSAW UNIVERSITY WHOSE INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH PHILOLOGY THEY CONSIDER ONE OF THE WEAKER INSTI-TUTES IN POLAND. RECTOR RYBICKI HAS CONTINUALLY REQUESTED THAT MENTION BE MADE IN THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIS INSTI-TUTION AND INDIANA UNIVERSITY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASC THAT THE ASC WILL SOMEHOW ASSIST WARSAW UNIVERSITY IN THE STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPMENT OF ITS INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH PHILOLOGY. WE HAVE, TO THIS POINT, SUCCESSFULLY AVOIDED SUCH LANGUAGE IN THE AGREEMENT.

4. THE INCUMBENT FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN LITER-
ATURE AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY, PROFESSOR JAMES EMANUEL, IS
TEACHING A FULL COURSE LOAD IN THE INSTITUTE'S DEPARTMENT
OF AMERICAN LITERATURE. PROFESSOR HEDIN TEACHES ONE
COURSE IN THIS DEPARTMENT. THE REMAINDER OF PROFESSOR HEDIN'S
TIME HAS BEEN SPENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASC. HE
AND PROFESSOR FARNHAM HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN COUNTLESS
MEETINGS AND DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE ASC AND WITH
THE MYRIAD OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTIC DETAILS CON-
CERNED WITH THE CENTER'S ESTABLISHMENT. THEY NOW HAVE
RECRUITED A LOCAL STAFF AND ARE WELL INTO THE SETTING UP
OF THE ASC LIBRARY AND THE TRAINING OF ITS LIBRARIAN.
WE CANNOT RECOMMEND THAT THE COURSE LOAD FOR PROFESSOR
HEDIN'S REPLACEMENT BE INCREASED BECAUSE WE THINK THAT THE
ASC'S ACTIVITITES, VISITING LECTURERS, FILMS, THE OPERATION
OF THE LIBRARY, THE EDITING OF ASC PUBLICATIONS, ETC. WILL
TAKE UP EVEN MORE OF HIS TIME NEXT YEAR ONCE THE ASC
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IS IN FULL OPERATION. WE REPEAT: THE TWO LITERATURE
POSITIONS ARE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. THEY ARE SEPARATE
JOBS WITH SEPARATE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

5. THE DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN LITERATURE IN THE INSTITUTE
OF ENGLISH PHILOLOGY NOW HAS FOUR POLISH STAFF MEMBERS.
NONE OF THEM HAS COMPLETED HIS HABILITATION WORK, (POST
DOCTORAL DEGREE), WHICH WOULD QUALIFY HIM TO BECOME

CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT. TWO OF THEM HAVE HAD SUFFICIENT TIME TO DO SO, BUT HAVE NOT BEEN INCLINED TO DO SO THUS FAR FOR REASONS UNKNOWN TO US. THE TWO YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON POST-DOCTORAL DEGREES AND SHOULD COMPLETE THEM WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS. WE HAVE BEEN ASSIGNING OUR SENIOR CANDIDATE FRO CIES IN THIS FIELD EACH YEAR TO WARSAW UNIVERSITY AT THE SPECIFIC REQUEST OF THE WARSAW UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION AND THE MINEDUC. THE TWO YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THIS DEPARTMENT ARE OUTSTANDING YOUNG SCHOLARS, AND WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS ONE OF THEM WILL BE APPOINTED CHAIRMAN AND WILL ALSO BE QUALIFIED TO SUPERVISE PHD DISSERTATIONS IN THIS FIELD. UNTIL THAT TIME WE WILL NEED TO CONTINUE ASSIGNING SENIOR FULBRIGHT PROFESSORS TO THIS DEPARTMENT IF IT IS TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE AWARDDING DOCTORATES IN THIS FIELD. WE ATTACH VERY HIGH PRIORITY TO THIS PROJECT AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY. WE DON NOT THINK THAT THE REPLACEMENT DEAN WILSON IS Eeking FOR PROFESSOR HEDIN WOULD BE QUALIFIED TO FILL THIS POSITION. WE HAVE ASSIGNED PROFESSOR PETER CONN, CURRENTLY ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA TO THIS POSITION FOR NEXT YEAR. WE FEEL THAT HIS ASSIGNMENT THERE, ESPECIALLY DURING THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION OF THE ASC, WILL BE HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE BOTH FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN LITERATURE AND FOR THE ASC. WE HOPE THAT PROFESSOR CONN WILL BE WILLING TO BE OF CONSULTATIVE ASSISTANCE TO THE ASC NEXT YEAR.

DAVIES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976WARSAW01163
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760074-0104
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976027/aaaaafzs.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 42790
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER (ASC)
TAGS: OEXC, PL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006